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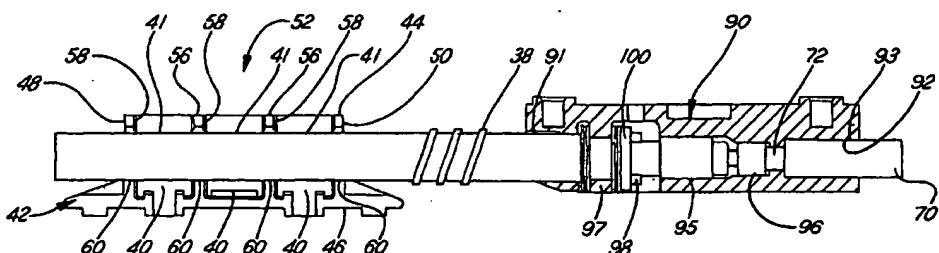
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(54) Title: POWER SEAT TRACK HAVING A FLEXIBLE SUPPORT ASSEMBLY FOR A LEAD SCREW



(57) Abstract: A powered track assembly (20) is provided for allowing selective forward and rearward adjustment of a seat assembly (10) along an interior floor of an automotive vehicle. The upper track (24) is fixedly secured to a bottom portion of the seat assembly (10). A rigid shaft (32) having a generally continuous helical thread (38) is rotatably supported by the upper track (24). A plurality of nuts (40) is threadedly engaged with the shaft (32). A cage (42) having a plurality of compartments (58) is fixedly secured to the lower track (22). Each compartment (58) supports one nut (40) to allow relative rotational movement of the rigid shaft (32) relative to the nuts (40). The nuts (40) are allowed a predetermined amount of movement within the respective compartments (58) to prevent binding between the nuts (40) and the rigid shaft (32) due to relative lateral or vertical movement between the upper and lower tracks.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
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According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 B60N F16C F16D

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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X ✓	FR 2 796 013 A (BERTRAND FAURE EQUIPEMENTS SA) 12 January 2001 (2001-01-12) abstract	1-3,5, 14,15
A	page 6, line 6 - page 9, line 30; claims 1-9; figures 3-7 -----	4,6-13
X ✓	US 3 043 552 A (ALBERT J. COLAUTTI) 10 July 1962 (1962-07-10) column 1, line 69 - column 3, line 44; figures 1,2 -----	1,3,15
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X	US 5 292 164 A (RICHARD W. A. REES) 8 March 1994 (1994-03-08) abstract column 5, line 4 - column 7, line 6; figures 1,5,6,8 -----	1,3,15
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Patent family members are listed in annex.

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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A	US 4 057 114 A (PAUL J. ANDERSON) 8 November 1977 (1977-11-08) abstract column 2, line 55 - column 3, line 36; figures 1-3 -----	✓ 1,6-13, 15

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